



Consideration of budget proposals for the Office of the Legislative Assembly and Officers of the Assembly

Statement pursuant to Standing Order 246A

Mr Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 246A, I wish to make a statement on behalf of the Standing Committee on the Integrity Commission and Statutory Office Holders relating to its consideration of funding for the Office of the Legislative Assembly and Officers of the Assembly.

The *Financial Management Act 1996* requires that the Speaker consult with the Committee on the recommended appropriation for both the Office of the Legislative Assembly and the various Officers of the Assembly.

In support of this process, the Committee was provided with the recommended appropriation for the ACT Audit Office on 28 May 2026, the recommended appropriation for the ACT Integrity Commission on 27 May 2026, the recommended appropriation for the ACT Electoral Commission on 26 May 2026, and the recommended funding level for the ACT Ombudsman on 30 April 2026. The Committee considered business cases for additional funding proposals for the Office of the Legislative Assembly in February 2026, but the recommended appropriation for the Office of the Legislative Assembly had not been received before 2 June 2026.

The Committee understands that these were provided for consultation as soon as they became available. Nonetheless, the timing of the consultation process established under the Budget Protocols agreed by the Speaker and the Chief Minister raises questions about what opportunity this provides for the Committee to have timely input into the consideration of recommended appropriations and funding levels.

The Committee intends to give further consideration to its role in relation to these budget proposals and will report back to the Speaker in due course.